GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3183
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2003
PETROLEUM DEPOTS IN POPULATED AREAS
PRAKASH V. PATIL

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number petroleum depots has been located in the thickly populated areas in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether adequate steps have been taken as a highly explosive projects is stored in the vicinity of densely populated urban areas;

(c) if so, whether such depots would be removed to safer places; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) : Initially, sites for petroleum Depots are generally selected away from populated areas. However, over a period of time, residential and commercial structures come up in the vicinity, making the area congested.

(b) : Adequate built-in-measure are taken while designing the facilities of Depots by adhering to the laid down guidelines, Petroleum Act & Rules (enforced by Chief Controller of Explosives, Nagpur) OISD Standards, Factory Act, etc., as applicable.

(c) & (d) : Oil Companies review shifting of depots on various grounds like safety considerations, resitement to other location and strategic storage etc. Several depots in the past have been closed down/resited due to various reasons including safety considerations.